

Executive Summary of the Quality Enhancement Plan

Title

The title of the Quality Enhancement Plan for Piedmont Technical College is “Enriching Student Learning through Technology Readiness.”

Justification for Topic Selection

The SACS Leadership Team assigned responsibility for the topic of the Quality Enhancement Plan to the eleven-member QEP Topic Selection Committee. This committee consisted of faculty from four academic divisions as well as staff members from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Planning and Student Services. Administrative liaisons were present at most meetings. After reviewing “The Nature and Purpose of the Quality Enhancement Plan” outlined in core requirement 2.12, this committee initiated a reflective process to seek broad-based input on institutional issues which might enhance student learning. Throughout the topic selection process, the committee solicited input from the college community. This process included electronic input to a designated E-mail account, committee-led discussion at scheduled campus meetings, including student clubs, several faculty proposals to the Topic Selection Committee, and a formal presentation to the governing board (PTC Area Commission) by the Topic Selection Committee Chair. Based on this broad-based input, an analysis based on the other QEP Purpose and Evaluation indicators: focus, sustainability, and assessment, was conducted. Each topic submission was evaluated through a causal analysis process. At the end of the process, the committee presented the following topic to the SACS Leadership Team: “Enriching the learning environment through technology.” The Leadership Team recommended a narrowing of the focus to a single aspect of the college population. After further discussion, the Topic Selection Committee narrowed the focus to student learning.

Description of the Focus

The Quality Enhancement Plan will result in the following outcome:

Goal: Piedmont Technical College students will demonstrate requisite skills needed to succeed in technology-rich learning environments.

The plan is being developed by a thirty-member QEP Topic Development Committee divided into six subcommittees charged with the following: Readiness Assessment Instrument Review (5 members), Literature Review (6), Best Practices Review (5), QEP Development (12), QEP Writing (4), and QEP Assessment (4). A QEP Implementation Team will be formed after the plan is finalized. This committee’s strategic focuses include: redesigning developmental studies courses, assessing student computer-readiness skills, preparing students for online learning coursework, and investigating program-specific technologies. The Committee will draft a formal proposal for implementation, sustainability, and assessment of student learning. Once accepted, the plan will be incorporated into all aspects of the college community through the strategic planning process.